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CIA Link Denied By Foundation

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Common Pleas Court Judge Alexander F. Barbieri, who also is secretary and a member of the Board of the Independence Foundation of Philadelphia, denied Monday the organization "had any relationship whatsoever with the CIA or anyone representing that agency."

Judge Barbieri's statement followed publication of a list of foundations that allegedly received funds from the CIA. The list, issued last February, by Same Brown, chairman of the National Students Association supervisory board, included an "Independence Foundation."

PRIVATE GROUP

"Independence Foundation," Judge Barbieri said, "is a privately endowed philanthropic agency making grants for the purpose of promoting advances in education, medical research and other fields."

"Some dispatches on the CIA controversy have mentioned the 'Independence Fountain of Boston.' Others have named only the foundation. We are unaware of the existence of an Independence Foundation of Boston."

CONFUSION CAUSED

"Since the Independence Foundation with offices in Philadelphia is known throughout New England as well as other sections of the United States, these references have caused widespread confusion and great embarrassment."

The judge explained the foundation was created in 1932 by the late William H. Donner.